Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—There are registers in the Huzur for petitions.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Was not the register searched, before this answer to part (b) was given? How many petitions were received by the Government?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—No particular period was specified in the question, and so it was not looked into.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—How long was Dr. Coombes the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Is that a supplementary question, Sir?

President.—It is not.

X-Ray Department.

24. **Mr. K. J. Antony.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the number of cases dealt with in the X-Ray Department from the date of its opening to the date of the departure of the expert to England;

(b) who manages the X-Ray Department now in the absence of the expert;

(c) has the present incumbent any special qualification for it;

(d) do the expert and the other servants connected with the department take any share to their credit out of the income derived from the X-Ray operations;

(e) what percentage of income the expert used to take and what percentage does the present incumbent take;

(f) is there any difference between the percentage; and if so, what is the reason for the same?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(a) 493.

(b) Sub-Assistant Surgeon T. Koshy Mathew.

(c) Yes. Has undergone training in the General Hospital, Madras (X-Ray Department) and under the X-Ray Officer in the General Hospital, Ernakulam.

(d) Yes. 50 per cent.

(e) Forty-five per cent of the 50 per cent reserved for the staff; 55 per cent.

(f) Yes. Due to the additional work.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—Has Mr. Koshi Mathew any certificate from Madras?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I believe he has.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—Do you think that Mr. Koshi Mathew is efficient enough to be put in charge of the X-Ray Department?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Yes.

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Mr. K. J. Antony.—When was Mr. Koshi Mathew appointed in the Medical Department?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—It is not a supplementary question to this.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—May I know what extra work is given to Mr. Koshi Mathew?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—He is the Assistant Surgeon in the Ophthalmic Hospital.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—Was he assisting the X-Ray expert, when the expert was there?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—The answer is given there.

Teaching of Hindi.

25. Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the Hindi language is taught in any of the schools of the State now;

(b) if the answer is in the affirmative, the number of schools in which it is taught;

(c) if the answer is in the negative, whether they intend introducing it in the curriculum of studies in schools?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—(a) and (b). Yes, sanction has been given to conduct private classes in four institutions.

(c) No.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Did the Government conider the desirability of introducing Hindi in the curricula of studies in Schools?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—It cannot be made compulsory in all the schools.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—I never said that it was to be made compulsory. My question does not say that it should be made compulsory. May I know the difficulties that were found by the Government in their way?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—I want notice.

Collection of metals for roads.

26. Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) the total length of P. W. D. roads on the sides of which metals for repair have been collected and kept this year;

(2) the reasons why they did not make arrangements for storing them outside, thereby causing inconvenience and danger to traffic?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—(1) No statistics are available.

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